

# Curecanti National Recreation Area Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument Outreach Education

Grade 3 pre-visit activity-"Dams"



## DAMS

Instructions: Read the story and the sentences that follow. Write on the lines next to the sentences either B for beaver or H for human. Review the vocabulary words on the back of sheet.

Beavers and humans build dams. Beavers build low dams with sticks, branches and mud. Humans use earth, rock and concrete to build very high dams. Beavers build a stick lodge right next to their dam. Humans build a hydroelectric plant next to their dams. The dam and lodge protect the beaver from its predators. Human dams protect people from floods and provide water for irrigation.

\_\_\_ They build dams and lodges for protection from their predators.

\_\_\_ Some dams they build generate hydroelectric power.

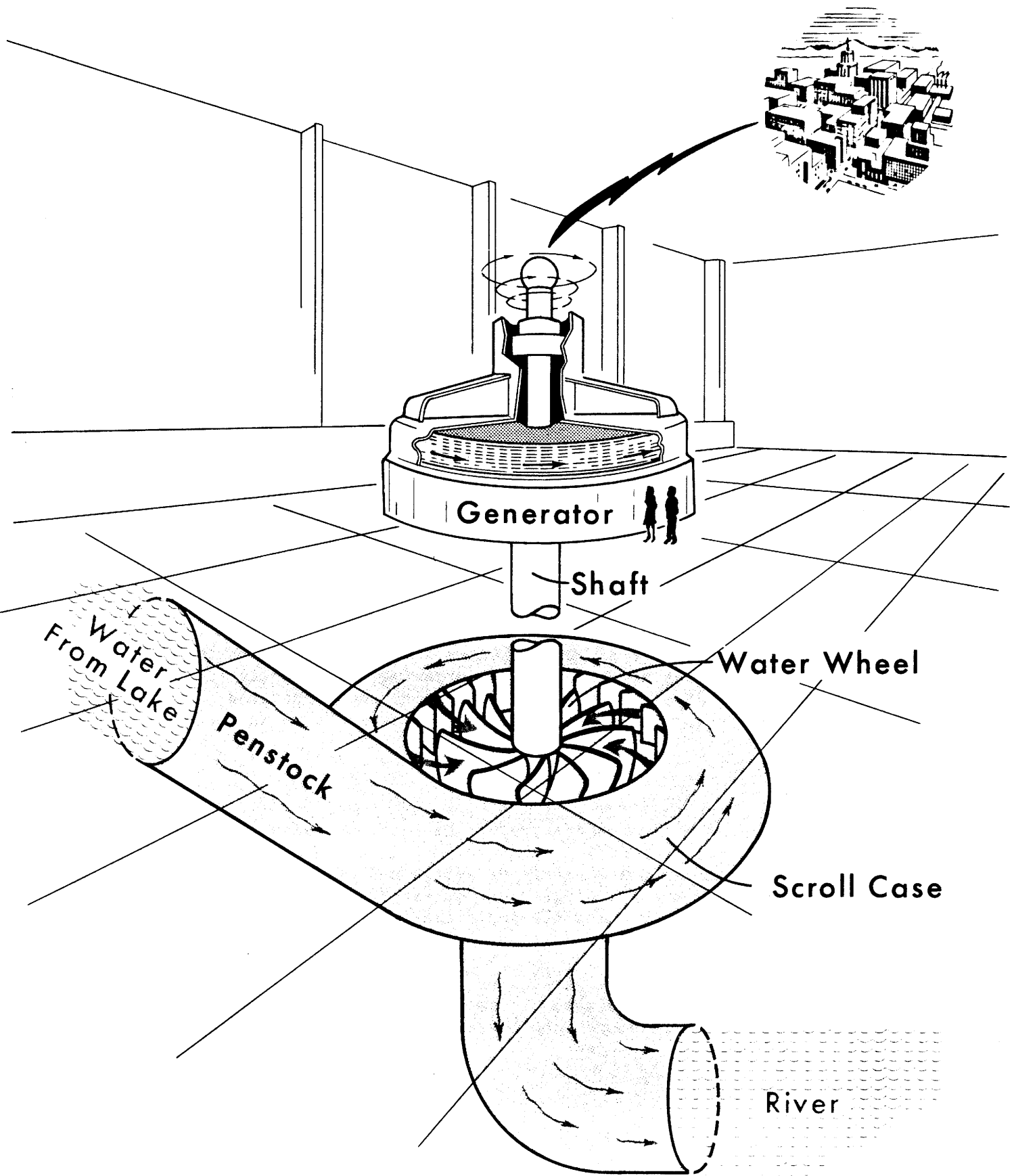
\_\_\_ They make their dams out of sticks, branches and mud.

\_\_\_ These dams provide water for irrigation.

\_\_\_ Dams built by them can be higher than 10 school buses stacked on end.

\_\_\_ They live in a lodge next to their dam.

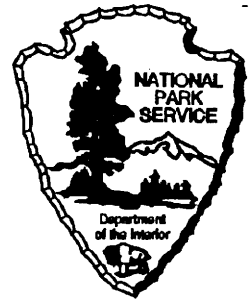




HYDROELECTRIC GENERATOR

# Curecanti National Recreation Area Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument Outreach Education

Grade 3 post-visit activity, "Dams".



## DAMS

Instructions: Circle the correct answer.

1. Human-made dams create large water storage areas called:
  - a. lakes
  - b. ponds
  - c. reservoirs.
2. Some dams generate:
  - a. nuclear power
  - b. hydroelectric power
  - c. solar power
3. Beaver dams are found in:
  - a. creeks
  - b. oceans
  - c. waterfalls
4. In the spring, dams help prevent :
  - a. tornados
  - b. flooding
  - c. earthquakes
5. Beaver and human dams can change other animals':
  - a. habitats
  - b. diet
  - c. fur color



## VOCABULARY

- Dredge:** gather material such as sand, silt and mud from the bottom of a river
- Fossil Fuel:** a naturally occurring fuel such as coal or natural gas formed from remains of prehistoric organisms
- Generator:** a machine that converts one form of energy into another
- Hydroelectric:** pertaining to generation of electric power from water
- Power Plant:** a building necessary for generation of power
- Sediment:** materials that settle to the bottom of a liquid
- Turbine:** a machine with blades that spins from the pressure of a moving material (steam, water, air)